

German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract of []

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ANALYSIS OF THE METALLURGICAL INDUSTRY IN THE GDR (69 pp; German; [])

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1. A detailed and comprehensive report (54 pp), "Iron and Steel--An Analysis of the Metallurgical Industry in the GDR", dated December 1950. The report is largely descriptive, but includes some statistics. The table of contents is as follows:

Introduction

- I. The situation at the end of the war
- II. Dismantling of plants in the Soviet Zone
- III. Expropriation and organization of the iron industry as of September 1950
- IV. Compilation of production and plan figures
- V. Reconstruction: a) the period 1945-1948 b) the Two-Year Plan, 1949-1950 c) the Five-Year Plan, 1951-1955
- VI. Products of the iron and steel industries: a) iron ores b) raw iron c) raw steel d) rolling mill products e) cast steel f) cast iron and malleable cast iron g) pressed pieces and forgings
- VII. Supply for the iron and steel industries: a) scrap metal b) coal and electric power c) machines and materials
- VIII. Research and training
- IX. Prospects up to 1955
- X. Appendices: 1) list of VVB Vesta plants 2) list of VVB Gus plants 3) list of other important iron and steel enterprises 4) list of plants of Metallurgical Soviet Corporations 5) detailed description of Max-Huetten, Hennigsdorf, Riesa, Thale, Calbe, Fuerstenberg, and Brandenburg 6) sketches and plans of plants listed in 5) 7) personnel lists
[appendices 6 and 7 are not attached to the document]

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2. A 3-page cover letter for the report, [] from the "Deutsches Buero" ("German Office"--not further identified). The letter states that the report, which will be regularly supplemented, is designed to keep appropriate offices of the German Federal Republic informed on GDR metallurgy and to aid the West in pursuing a purposeful economic policy toward the GDR. Specific observations are made on sections of the report, and the theory is propounded that if the flow of materials and machines from the West to the East Zone, both legal and illegal, could be impeded, economic recovery in the East Zone might be ~~impeded~~ to such an extent that the Soviets would regard the Zone as more of a liability than an asset. This might thus be a means of promoting the reunification of Germany. Specific items over which control should be exercised include alloys of all types, alloy and high-grade steel, heavy forgings, and machines and equipment for iron works and rolling mills. Also, care should be taken that metallurgical specialists do not move to the Soviet Zone to ease the shortage of such personnel there.

3. A report (12 pp) by Prof. Dr. Bruno Gleitze given at a conference of the "Koenigsteiner Kreis" (an association of refugee lawyers and officials from the Soviet Zone) held 17-18 March 1951 in Koenigstein/Taunus. The report rather exhaustively surveys the economic structure and tendencies in the GDR, the sovietizing of agriculture, industry, and trade, the manpower picture, and living conditions.

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